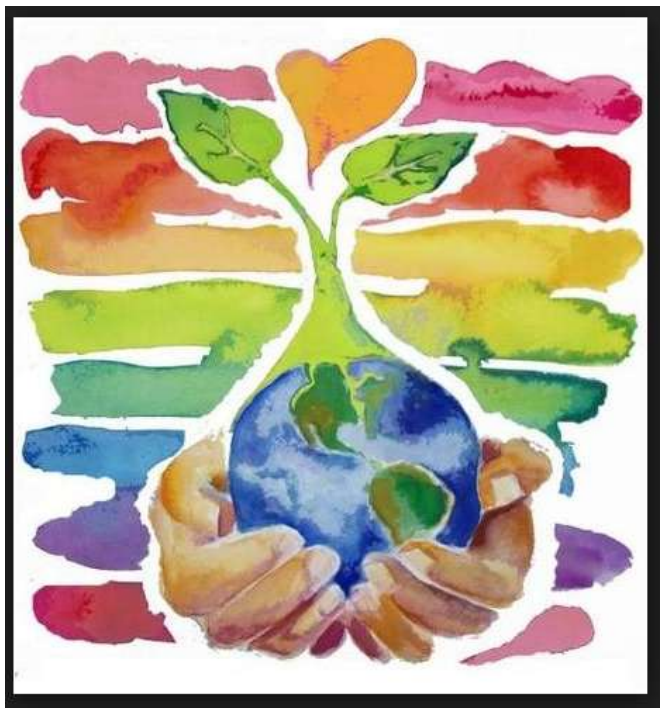
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti, MI

"Follow Me"



http://www.franciscansforjustice.org/category/care-for-creation/cc-resources/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

September 13, 2015 10:00 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"Song of the Soul"** **81 ES** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Tad Wysor

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Tad Wysor

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn** **"Over My Head"** **514 NCH**

Call to Worship (Unison) Tad Wysor

God of all wisdom, renew our sense of awe and wonder as we gather before you, the Source of all knowledge. Make your Word known to us, and stretch out your hand to touch us. Draw us away from our own devices that we may truly listen to see the beauty of your creation. Align us with truth and righteousness. Quiet our scoffing and awaken our trust. Show us, as your disciples, how we need to stay in touch with you each day. Amen.

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

LISTENING FOR GOD

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Old Testament **Wisdom of Solomon 7:24-8:1** Tad Wysor

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward*

New Testament **James 3:1-12** Tad Wysor

Sermon **Everything In Its Place** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"You Are the Seed"** **528 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One.

- See more at: http://www.fpcshreveport.org/connect/musings/the-lords-prayer1#sthash.J4dOgenY.dpuf

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) — Carol Hall

The way we use the wealth that you have entrusted us with teaches much more than our words. Please let our offerings send the message of hope and love to all we encounter. Help us to share our delight in knowing God and following Christ! Amen.

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

Offertory — Steve McGhee

*Doxology — "Take My Gifts" — 562 NCH

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

*Prayer of Dedication *(Unison)* — Tad Wysor

We offer the treasures of this world as a way of recalling all of us to a right relationship with you, O God, the source of all wisdom and truth. Your design for life is more to be desired than the finest gold. To learn from you and to serve you is our highest joy. May our offerings and our daily lives communicate this message of joy, love and peace! Amen.

– Adapted from "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler

COMMUNING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

***Hymn of Blessing** **"Let Us Break Bread Together"** **330 NCH**

Communion Service Carol Hall

Communion will be served by intinction in our chairs.
All are Welcome at the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving Carol Hall

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"With God as My Guide"** **54 ES**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One: Let your words this week proclaim God's love.
May your hearts' meditations be acceptable to God.

Many: We will look for God in the midst of creation.
We will seek God's face in the people around us.
How exciting it is to follow where Christ leads!
Amen. **– Adapted From "Led by Love", Lavon Bayler**

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website:* *www.ypsiucc.com

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: Sept 13th	Next Sunday: Sept 20th
Usher	Jamie Goldsmith	Marty Kleino
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Tad Wysor	Wayne Burling
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Margaret Harner
Acolyte	Hunter Turner	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Barb Garland	Anne Marie N-T
Sunday School	Anne Marie N-T	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held October 5th at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

NEW ADDRESS: Lorraine Sayles' new address; 2139 Georgetown Blvd., Ann Arbor, 48105. Her phone number is now the same as always (734) 483-3849.

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*****,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: **HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!!** Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.

About this week's cover photo: **http://www.franciscansforjustice.org/category/care-for-creation/cc-resources/**

Franciscans For Justice

Franciscans for Justice is a joint project of the O.F.M. Franciscan Friars of the St. Barbara Province and the Our Lady of Guadalupe Province. Franciscan Friars are a Roman Catholic religious community called and committed to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the prophetic spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. We work with others to promote justice, peace and care for creation, in our times.

Our Inspiration

St. Francis of Assisi is one history's outstanding models of what it means to live life fully as a follower of Jesus Christ. Francis inspires us in our work. Francis lived a deep life of prayer and boldly proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ by his example, preaching, and teaching. His love of Jesus inspired him to public preaching, and to take on the concerns of others. He reached out to the leper, the poor, and the marginalized, recognizing Christ's presence in them. He proclaimed God's love and peace, actively fostering reconciliation between warring parties. In all of creation, he perceived God's love and beauty. His life was marked by intense religious experiences, which drew him deeper into the mystery of God. Francis made the message of God's love understandable to ordinary people.

Our Approach

We seek to animate justice, peace and care for creation in ourselves, the Church and in the broader society. In the Franciscan tradition, animation is a form of leadership that stresses the power of good example and encouragement. This approach respects and supports others who share our values in living out their calling. We seek not to prescribe what others should do, but to understand and strengthen in every human life prayer, lifestyle, service, preaching and advocacy which for some are the concrete expressions of the love of God.

Our Partners

We share these values with a worldwide family of Franciscan men and women, vowed religious, and lay. At the international level, we work with the International OFM JPIC Office in Rome **Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Office of the Franciscan Friars** to animate the broader Franciscan family. We collaborate with **Franciscans International**, a nongovernmental organization that brings Franciscan values to the work of the United Nations. At the national level we work with the **Franciscan Action Network** to advocate for our values. Combining resources as *Franciscans for Justice*, **The St. Barbara Province of Franciscan Friars** and the **Our Lady of Guadalupe Province** offers parish, retreat, social service, missionary and educational ministries in California, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas and missions throughout the world.